

INFORMATION LETTER

Not for
Publication

NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION

For Members
Only

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PLANS FOR PROCESSORS' CONFERENCE ARE DISCUSSED

Shortage of Hotel Space in Chicago is Most Serious in History of the Association

The handling of arrangements for the Processors' Conference in Chicago next February 4, 5, and 6 promises to be more difficult than for any meeting thus far in the Association's experience.

Colonel J. Monroe Johnson, Director of the Office of Defense Transportation, has expressed the attitude of the Government as favoring the calling off of all conventions for the first three months of 1945, on account of the unusual demands made by the war on transportation facilities and hotel accommodations. The Government has laid special emphasis upon the necessity of hotels making continuously available sufficient rooms to take care of members of the armed forces and government men traveling on war business.

The hotel situation in Chicago is more serious than ever before. Of the three principal hotels in which canners desire reservations, the Stevens has promised 800 rooms, against 1,300 last year; the Blackstone, 50 rooms; and the Palmer House, 100 rooms. There are a number of rooms available in other Chicago hotels that can be used to take care of those attending the Conference, provided canners are willing to use these rooms, at least in part, where more than one room is required.

The Association has received numerous requests for reservations, and is proceeding under great difficulty in making assignments. In many instances, where more than one room has been requested, especially at the Stevens, it will sometimes be necessary to assign rooms at other nearby hotels.

The situation was fully explained at the meetings of the Administrative Council and the Board of Directors which were held in Washington last week, and the general opinion is expressed in a motion passed by the Administrative Council. The motion was to the effect that room reservations for the Processors' Conference be limited to processors; that the allocation of rooms be based on the limited number available and that the Secretary be requested to notify allied associations of the situation, and request their cooperation.

The Brokers' Association has agreed to hold its convention at a date which does not conflict with the Conference, and the same action has been taken by the National-American Wholesale Grocers Association.

It is apparent that the only possible way that all canners, who desire to attend the Conference, can be assured of hotel accommodations is for the Association to carry out the recommendations of the Administrative Council and place a drastic limitation on room assignments. Many canners have offered to cooperate in meeting this situation, and it is hoped their attitude will be unanimous throughout the industry.

It should be borne in mind that, owing to wartime conditions, this conference is not to be like a pre-war convention at which canners were encouraged to avail themselves of the opportunity to meet their customers, brokers, and supply men and members of allied associations. The Processors' Conference will be restricted to meetings of processors themselves and with representatives of the government offices.

(Concluded on page 8458)

Sixth War Loan Drive

The Sixth War Loan Drive is on! Between now and December 16 every American will be asked to do his share in helping to raise 14 billion dollars to meet a part of the cost of victory.

The United States Treasury Department has requested trade associations and industry to aid the campaign by disseminating information to members and employees and by urging their fullest possible participation in the Sixth War Loan Drive.

Canners Urged to Collect Tin

The War Production Board has asked the Association to again urge the canning industry to cooperate in every possible way in the tin salvage campaign. "The collection of all detinnable scrap, including cans, is still very essential," the WPB said.

Canners are urged to assist their local tin salvage committees by turning over to them all damaged cans and all cans which are cut for sampling.

CANNERS REQUIRED TO FILE 1944 CEILINGS WITH OPA

Food processors who price their products under Pricing Method No. 1 (the method used for pricing canned foods listed in Amendments 1 through 15 to Supplement 7, Food Products Regulation 1), are required to file a statement on OPA Form 633-2100 of their maximum prices with the Office of Price Administration, that agency has announced. These statements should be filed in duplicate with the OPA district office serving the area in which the processor's principal place of business is located.

The action, taken in Amendment 17 to Supplement 7 to Food Products Regulation 1, effective December 11, 1944, provides that the report is to be filed on or before December 31, 1944, for those products for which the pack was started prior to December 6. For those products for which the pack was started after December 6, the report is to be filed within 30 days after the beginning of the pack.

A separate form for each product

covered by Pricing Method No. 1 should be filed, listing the information specified in the form for all items of the product. Copies of this form will be mailed all canners by the OPA on December 11. Additional copies may be obtained from district and regional OPA offices.

The OPA asked canners to bear in mind that OPA Form 633-2100 applies only to those commodities priced under Pricing Method No. 1. A separate form will be issued shortly for those commodities priced under Pricing Method No. 2, the OPA said.

The amendment, OPA said, also provides that a processor who refigures a uniform maximum price for an item for a group of factories shall file a supplementary statement within 10 days after that price has been refigured.

Official text of Amendment 17 to Supplement 7 to Food Products Regulation 1 follows:

Supplement 7 to Food Products Regu-

lation No. 1 is amended in the following respects:

1. Section 13 is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 13. Reports which processors must file—(a) *Items priced under section 5.* Every processor shall file with the district office of the Office of Price Administration for the area in which his principal place of business is located a statement, in duplicate and signed by him, on Office of Price Administration Form No. 633-2100, for each item for which his maximum price is named in or figured under section 5 of this supplement. As to each item for which the pack was started prior to December 6, 1944 the statement shall be filed on or before December 31, 1944. (The statement for all items of a particular product shall be made on one form.) As to each item for which the pack is started after December 6, 1944 the statement shall be filed within 30 days after the beginning of the pack.

A processor who refigures a uniform maximum price for an item for a group of factories, in accordance with section 10 (f), shall file a supplementary statement on Form No. 633-2100, in duplicate and signed by him, on or before December 31, 1944 or within 10 days after he refigures the price.

Copies of the reporting form may be secured from any district office of the Office of Price Administration.

(b) *Items priced under section 6.* (To be announced.)

This amendment shall become effective December 11, 1944.

Canned Snap Beans Offered

War Food Administration is offering for sale to the original processors 76,987 cases of canned snap beans no longer needed to fulfill the requirements of war agencies.

This is another offer to original processors against a total of approximately 400,000 cases of beans now being returned to the civilian trade. The balance will be offered as grade and condition are determined.

Offers to purchase must be received by WFA not later than 5 p. m., December 10. After that date beans still unsold under this offer will be offered for sale to all snap bean canners.

The beans are 1942 and 1943 packs, and are listed and located for sale as follows:

21,787 cases (24/2's), Round cut green, Grade B, at Grand Rapids, Mich.; and Savannah, Ga.—13,967 cases (24/2's), Round cut green, Grade C, at Grand Rapids, Mich.; Albany, Ga.; and Savannah, Ga.—6,102 cases (6/10's), Round cut green, Grade B, at Grand Rapids, Mich.—10,156 cases (6/10's), Cut green, Grade C, at Houston, Tex.; and St. Louis, Mo.—6,131 cases (24/2's), Cut green, Grade C, at Sa-

vannah, Ga.; and St. Louis, Mo.—1,740 cases (6/10's), Cut wax, Grade B, at Philadelphia, Pa.—4,384 cases (24/2's), Round cut wax, Grade B, at Grand Rapids, Mich.—12,720 cases (6/10's), Flat cut green, Grade C, at Preston, Md.

Victory Gardening and Home Canning to Continue in 1945

Continued interest in Victory Gardening and home food preservation for 1945 has been revealed in a survey made public by the U. S. Department of Agriculture. The survey showed that nearly 18½ million gardens were grown this year and virtually all the gardeners expect to continue in 1945.

Approximately 6 million of the gardens were on farms, and about 12½ million were in towns, cities, and suburban areas. The survey showed that 88 per cent of the country's farm homes had gardens last year, and 44 per cent of the non-farm homes had gardens.

No estimate has been made on total yield from Victory Gardens this year, but officials of the department said that the garden production has probably been as much as a year ago. The department did not make an official estimate of the number of gardens in 1943, but private polls placed the number at 20 million. Many of those who dropped gardening this year did so because of poor locations or other reasons that prevented satisfactory yields, it is believed.

More than two-thirds of the housewives of the nation did some home canning or other form of home food preservation in 1944. This is about the same number that did this work in 1943. Indications are that the number will not decrease in 1945 unless plans are changed between now and next summer, the department said.

Reasons for growing a garden were (1) to help the war effort, (2) to get better vegetables, and (3) to save money. Reasons given for home canning were (1) to provide food for the winter, (2) to save ration points, (3) to save money, and (4) to help the food situation.

H. W. Hochbaum, chairman of the Federal Government Victory Garden Committee, pointed out that the gardeners had planted heavily of the protective foods such as carrots, tomatoes, and green leafy vegetables. The survey showed that 62 per cent of the urban gardens had carrots, 94 per cent had tomatoes, and 71 per cent had lettuce. In addition, cabbage, turnip greens, spinach, Swiss chard, mustard and kale were grown in many of the urban gardens. Protective foods were

grown in an even greater degree in the farm gardens.

Victory Garden Conference

A call for a Victory Garden program in 1945 to equal the record of 1944 was made by Victory Garden leaders at a two-day conference just concluded at the U. S. Department of Agriculture in Washington, D. C. A summary of the conference recommendations follows:

1. Until the end of the war and of the transition emergency period food will continue to be a vital factor. All food that can be grown and consumed at home will help assure adequate supplies needed to maintain civilian health, efficiency and morale, after the requirements of the armed forces and other war needs are met.

2. Home planting of various types of fruit trees and small fruits where experience has shown they can be grown with a minimum of attention should be encouraged throughout the United States. The conference recommended that provision be made for larger research activities in this field by State and Federal experiment stations.

3. Encouragement should be given to planning of home grounds both in the city and the country to make homes more livable where this can be done without interference with needed food production. The conference also recommended more attention to space for home gardens in new real estate developments, and beautification of highway rights-of-way. It was recommended that greater emphasis be placed on research in ornamental horticulture by the U. S. Department of Agriculture, and that War Food Administration and the State Extension Services cooperate with urban communities in the employment of horticultural agents.

4. It was recommended that gardening in schools and among youth organizations be given added emphasis.

5. Gardening as a physical and mental healing force was emphasized and recommended as important in rehabilitation of disabled members of the armed forces.

6. It was recommended that State defense councils urge local Victory Garden committees to continue their work in 1945.

7. Industrial and commercial farms have contributed greatly to Victory Gardening through the fostering of employee gardens and are urged to continue this effort and to broaden it into a permanent post-war program.

Michigan Association Officers

The following have been reelected officers of the Michigan Canners Association—President, Robert A. Payne, Eau Claire; vice-president, William Kinnaird, Traverse City; secretary-treasurer, L. F. Kimmel, Paw Paw.

N. C. A. Technical Committee on Containers Discusses M-81

At a recent meeting, the N. C. A. Technical Committee on Containers discussed the schedules of WPB Order M-81 in the light of experimental evidence and commercial experience. The Committee's recommendations, which have been forwarded to the War Production Board and War Food Administration, listed only products for which the present container is considered to have some marked disadvantage in service life, effect on the product, or convenience in use.

Pears, Fruit Cocktail, Mixed Fruits.—Additional experience has shown these to be more corrosive than formerly supposed. There is also at times a severe problem of can segregation when they are packed simultaneously with peaches, for which a different can has been specified. Therefore, the Committee recommended cans of all hot-dipped 1.50 lb. plate for these products, the same as for peaches.

Beans, with or without pork or tomato sauce (from dry beans).—Because of an adverse flavor effect in all inside enameled cans, use of 1.25 lb. hot-dipped bodies was recommended.

Pumpkin and Squash.—Cans of all hot-dipped 1.50 lb. plate was suggested, since some losses due to corrosion have been experienced in lighter cans.

Tomato Soup.—Use of 1.25 lb. hot-dipped ends in place of 0.50 lb. electrolytic ends on 1.25 lb. bodies was recommended to overcome flavor impairment.

The Committee will continue to study containers for other products, and a subcommittee is engaged in estimating the amounts of tin involved in other changes which may be possible when the tin situation becomes more favorable.

California Wage Case Reported

By an order dated October 16 which was explained in an opinion dated November 20, the National War Labor Board denied petitions for review filed in a wage dispute case between the California Processors and Growers Inc., and the California State Council of Cannery Unions, AFL. Both parties were dissatisfied with the rulings by the Tenth Regional War Labor Board and asked the National Board to review them. The National Board affirmed the Regional Board's decision without change.

The decision of the National Board which dealt with disputes concerning increased vacation pay, union security, working hours, a night shift differential and an increase in base pay for piece-

workers, would result in increased labor costs for California canners. Since a substantial number of the canners represented by the California Processors and Growers Inc., filed notice with the National War Labor Board of their intention to apply for ceiling price increases on the basis of wage increases resulting from the Board's decision, this wage dispute case is now in the office of Economic Stabilization Director Vinson for review.

Waste Utilization Conference

An Industrial Waste Utilization Conference was held at Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana, on November 29 and 30. The Conference was held under the direction of Purdue University with the cooperation of a number of Indiana trade associations including the Indiana Canners Association.

This meeting was the first attempt to bring together a large number of experts in industrial waste utilization and representatives of industry on a nation-wide scale. The entire subject of industrial wastes was covered in a series of papers presented during the two days of conference.

Food canning waste utilization was presented in a paper by N. H. Sanborn of the National Canners Association and followed by a discussion on the same subject by D. T. Sherow of Stokely Foods, Inc.

As part of the program, symposia on various trade wastes were held. The symposium on food canning wastes was well attended and evoked considerable discussion for those in attendance.

Dry Bean and Pea Prices

Dealers who sell dry edible beans or dry peas through brokers to wholesalers may add the brokers' actual charges, not to exceed 10 cents a hundred pounds, to their ceiling price, the Office of Price Administration announced November 20. However, the broker's actual charge in no event may exceed his own ceiling price for his services. The action, taken in Amendment 6 to Second Revised Maximum Price Regulation 270, becomes effective December 4, 1944.

In the past, dealers in dry edible beans and dry peas could add the full amount of the brokers' ceiling price, up to 10 cents, even if the actual charge happened to be less than his ceiling. As a result of the change made today, the provisions covering sales by dealers in dry edible beans or dry peas through brokers conform with the same provisions found in other regulations, OPA said.

Changes Announced in Dry Bean Set-aside Requirements

The War Food Administration has amended War Food Order 45 to readjust the set-aside requirements for edible dry beans by classes in accordance with revised allocations to claimant war agencies. The amendment, effective December 1, divides ten classes of beans into four separate set-aside groups, and fixes the set-aside percentage for each group or class according to need. The set-aside percentages, based on deliveries into civilian channels, vary from 35 to 300 per cent as follows:

Group 1—Pea, Great Northern, Small White, Flat, and Small White, 35; Group 2—Red Kidney (3 classes), 300 (this means that country shippers are required to set aside three 100-pound bags for every bag sold into civilian channels); Group 3—Baby Lima, 60; Group 4—Pink and Small Red, 100.

On a basis of volume, the readjusted percentages represent a smaller quantity of beans than the former 40 and 100 per cent set aside from two class groups. Pinto beans are eliminated from the set-aside requirements, and the increase in red kidney and small reds will be virtually off-set in volume by the decrease in percentage requirements for the white beans in Group 1.

All beans in the first three groups will be purchased only by the armed services and authorized purchasers or country shippers who acquire them for resale to authorized purchasers or the armed services, while those in Group 4 will be eligible for purchase by any governmental agency, by authorized purchasers, and by country shippers who acquire them for resale to authorized purchasers or governmental agencies.

Commodity Credit Corporation will not purchase beans in Group 1, 2, and 3 except as a price-support measure.

Hutson Appointed to New Post

Appointment of J. B. Hutson as Deputy Director for Agriculture in the newly established Office of War Mobilization and Reconversion was announced December 6 by OWMR Director James F. Byrnes.

As Deputy Director for Agriculture, Mr. Hutson will be responsible to Mr. Byrnes "for the preparation of plans for the transition of agriculture from war to peace."

Mr. Hutson is president of the Commodity Credit Corporation and Director of Production in the War Food Administration. He has been in the U. S. Department of Agriculture since 1924.

PROCESSORS' CONFERENCE (Concluded from page 8455)

The need for the Conference is quite apparent. It is entirely probable that the Government will ask for practically the same production as in 1944 and that the requirements of the Government will be about the same as last year; that is, approximately 50 per cent of the canned vegetables and from 65 to 75 per cent of the canned fruits.

Doubtless canners would like to have an opportunity to meet with government officials and discuss 1945 plans. For this reason it is earnestly hoped that it will be practicable, with the full understanding and cooperation of all concerned, to take care of all canners who desire to attend the Conference with the limited hotel accommodations available.

Prices of Oranges for Canning

The War Food Administration and the Office of Price Administration announced December 4 that the average grower prices for oranges—to be used in constructing canners' ceiling prices for the 1944-45 pack of canned single-strength orange juice and blended citrus (orange and grapefruit) juice—will be \$47.55 per ton for Florida and \$41.55 per ton for Texas, f.o.b. packing house or roadside basis.

The grower price for Florida oranges was established after taking into consideration the estimated reduction in average yield caused by the October hurricane in that State, the agencies said.

There was no announcement of grower prices for California and Arizona because the juice packs in these States are made primarily from summer oranges. Ceiling prices in this area will not be changed at the present time.

Grower prices announced November 10 for grapefruit (\$37.30 in Florida and \$25 in Texas, per ton "on-tree" basis) will be used in constructing canners' ceiling prices for the current season's pack of blended juice in these areas.

Ceilings on Sardines Reduced

Because wartime metal restrictions have made keys for canned Maine sardines unavailable to processors, the Office of Price Administration has reduced the ceiling price of the key-type sardine pack by 12½ cents per case when sold without keys. (There are 100 cans of Maine sardines to a case).

This reduction, effective December 9, under Amendment 5 to Maximum Price

Regulation 184, represents the cost of the keys to the canner, OPA said. It is not expected to affect prevailing retail prices.

The pricing agency said that canners must notify their primary distributors, wholesalers and retailers of this price reduction in the event they ship key-type cans without keys.

Canned Peas Offered for Sale

War Food Administration is offering for sale to the original canners 49,946 cases of canned peas from the 1942 and 1943 packs. This is another offer to original processors against a total of 728,850 cases being released from government stocks as grade and condition are determined.

Offers to purchase must be received by WFA not later than December 19, 1944. The peas are listed and located for sale as follows:

10,907 cases (24/2's) Extra Standard grade at Grand Rapids, Mich.; Buffalo, N. Y.; Albion, N. Y.; Oakfield, N. Y.; and Pasco, Wash.—36,352 cases (24/2's) Standard grade at Buffalo, N. Y.; Albion, N. Y.; Niagara Falls, N. Y.; Spenceport, N. Y.; and Pasco, Wash.—2,687 cases (6/10's) Extra Standard grade at Buffalo, N. Y.

William P. McCaffray Dies

William P. McCaffray, founder and president of the National Fruit Canning Company of Seattle, Wash., died November 30. Mr. McCaffray, former secretary of the National Canners Association's Apple and Apple Products Section, was prominently identified with the canning, freezing, and preserving industry of the Pacific Northwest.

Mr. McCaffray, together with Mark Ewald and George Pelton, organized the National Fruit Canning Company in 1912. He was one of the founders of the Northwest Canners Association and the Northwest Frozen Foods Association, and was active in their affairs. At the time of his death he was a Director in the Northwest Canners Association.

Concord Grape Ceilings

Ceiling prices for the 1944 crop of Concord grapes for processing that are produced in the States of Michigan and Washington, which were effective October 6, 1944, have been made retroactive to the beginning of the season (August 15), through the issuance of Amendment 12 to Maximum Price Regulation 425, effective August 15, 1944, the Office of Price Administration has

announced. In Michigan, an increase of \$10 a ton brings the price in line with the \$85 a ton ceiling price used in New York, Pennsylvania and Ohio in 1943 and 1944. In Washington the ceiling price approved for 1944 is \$52 a ton, \$7 more than in 1943.

Unavoidable delays prevented issuance of the new prices for Michigan and Washington until the Concord grape season was far advanced and producers in those States sold large portions of their crops under the lower prices, OPA said.

Processors' prices will reflect the amounts they actually paid, within the ceiling prices, for Concord grapes. The processors, OPA said, have indicated their desire to pay the differences to growers.

Food Container Requirements Increasing, WPB Report Shows

A special task committee to study containerboard and V-box problems was appointed at a recent session of the industry advisory committees of containerboard and fiber box manufacturers, the War Production Board has announced.

First quarter over-all requirements for paperboard were reported as 1,403,000 tons, which is approximately 300,000 tons in excess of production in the fourth quarter, government officials said. This places a definite burden on the industry to increase production to meet full requirements, especially when demands for V-box board, both solid and corrugated, have increased from 230,000 tons this quarter to 260,000 next quarter, WPB said. December production of V-board is said to be at the rate of 70,000, indicating fourth quarter production of approximately 210,000 tons. Total food container requirements for the first quarter of 1945 were reported as increasing, which indicates a shortage for packaging other products.

After hearing a statement on the impracticability of collecting and shipping waste paper and paperboard from the battlefronts to the United States, the committee agreed to hold in abeyance its request to the Army to gather and return waste paper to this country.

A representative of the Salvage Division reported the recent Boy Scout campaign in paper collection had aggregated 100,000 tons in two months. Total collections of waste paper last month amounted to 604,000 tons, approximating 60 per cent of the available waste paper that can be salvaged, it was pointed out. The industry was urged to establish its own permanent channels for the collection of paper.

RESEARCH ON PEA GROWING

Washington Agricultural Experiment Station Studies Reported

The Washington Agricultural Experiment Station at Pullman has carried on a number of research projects on growing peas in that State. Some of these studies are reported in the annual report (Bulletin 435) of the Station. In order to acquaint pea canners generally with the work being done on canning peas in Washington, certain sections of the Station's annual report have been excerpted and are reprinted below.

Pea Improvement. A project was begun to improve foundation pea seed stocks, to test established varieties for yielding ability and other characteristics of economic value to the grower, to develop new varieties of field peas, to conduct genetic studies with peas, and to determine the testing techniques best suited for peas.

Pea growers through their associations provided seventeen lots of peas from their better Alaska stocks and two lots of First and Best. Several thousand selections were made from these lots to serve as a basis for developing foundation seed free from mixtures and late rogues. Seven bushels each of two of the better Alaska stocks were produced from rogued fields.

Fertility Investigations. The fertilizer requirements for peas were determined in the Walla Walla area in locations varying considerably in elevation. At an elevation of 3500 feet, available sulfur was most effective. A favorable response was obtained also from phosphates but very little from nitrogen. Peas grown at an elevation of 2,200 feet responded better to nitrogen than to any other element, although there was a favorable response from the application of superphosphates.

Applications of gypsum to soils in eastern Washington prior to seeding seed peas were made with the cooperation of the Soil Conservation Service. A general average of 15 per cent increase in yield of dry peas and larger increases in yield of vines were obtained from applications of 100 to 150 pounds of gypsum per acre in the early spring on experimental plots in 16 fields.

Stem and Root Rots. In studies of seed decay and root and stem rots of peas, about a hundred isolates were obtained from seed and seedlings grown in the greenhouse and in the field at Pullman and Dayton. Organisms isolated were a few bacterial types and several genera of fungi, such as *Fusarium* and *Rhizoctonia*.

Preliminary trials indicate that the soil-borne rather than the seed-borne organisms are primarily responsible for damping-off and seedling blight. Tests showed a definite correlation between the amount of seed coat cracking in a sample and the percentage of emergence of seedlings. Improvement in stand was possible by treatment of seed with chemical dusts. Of 30 compounds used, half were eliminated because they were not effective. The others gave good results, increasing stands of low test seed about 30 per cent and improving emergence from cracked seed which are very susceptible to attack. Some of the newer fungicides such as Spergon and Arasan were found to be as effective as the older chemical compounds. Nine compounds were shown to be stable in storage as shown by emergence of seedlings from the stored treated seed. This storage test also showed that two year old seed when treated gave relatively greater increases in yield and emergence due to treatment than one-year old seed.

Studies of Disease Factors. Observations in pea fields in the vicinity of Pullman, Garfield, Tekoa and Fairfield showed that basal stem rot was very prevalent in many fields. Two hundred and five isolations were made from decayed areas of pea stems from 12 fields as a means of determining the cause of the trouble. One distinct species of *Fusarium* was present in 60 of the 205 isolations. Further work in the laboratory and greenhouse to study the organisms found associated with basal stem rot of peas is underway. A field near Albion was found infested with the pea wilt fungus. This is about 15 miles south of the infestations observed in previous years. Soil from this field was moved to the greenhouse and the feasibility of testing seed lots, selections and hybrids for resistance against this disease was demonstrated. It became evident that growers in the Palouse should use seed of wilt resistant varieties. Such are available.

Footrot of Peas. Initial effort on this project has been directed towards a determination of the casual agents of the disease. A study of the 1942 isolates from 1500 diseased plants, accompanied by greenhouse tests of pathogenicity, and an examination of diseased plant sections for *Aphanomyces oosporae*, revealed that *Ascochyta sp.*, *Fusarium sp.*, and *Aphanomyces sp.*, in the order named, were the most important organisms involved.

Footrot was far less severe in 1943 than in 1942. Many fields did not display shoot symptoms during the early

summer although footrot was common. By the middle of the summer peas in a few fields in the most severely affected footrot areas (around Montesano, Stanwood and LaConner) were beginning to exhibit typical footrot symptoms.

The 1943 study of all major pea-growing areas in western Washington revealed the presence of the same organisms found in 1942 and a preliminary examination of the isolates and plant sections indicated that the *Ascochyta sp.* again was responsible for most of the damage, but that *Aphanomyces sp.* was more important than the *Fusarium* this year. A study of the three organisms indicates that the *Aphanomyces* is more or less confined to moist areas such as the Montesano region, whereas the *Fusarium* is somewhat more widespread and the *Ascochyta* is present in every major pea-growing area. Examination of soil samples from both healthy and diseased pea fields is underway in order to determine if any correlation exists between fertility, pH, organic matter, or soil type and the degree of infection. A greenhouse study of pea varieties is being initiated in an effort to obtain resistant varieties.

New Association Members

The following firms have been admitted into membership in the Association since October 7, 1944:

- Blue River Packing Co., Morristown, Ind.
- L. G. Cortesi Canneries, Stonington, Me.
- F. & M. Packing Co., Brooksville, Fla.
- Grinnell Packing Co., Des Moines, Iowa.
- Hargis & Drake Canning Co., Fayetteville, Ark.
- L. H. Moore Canning Co., McAllen, Texas.
- Terminal Island Sea Foods, Ltd., Terminal Island, Calif.
- Val Verde Products Co., Donna, Texas.

Ration Point Values Unchanged

Present point values for rationed meats, butter, margarine, cheeses, canned milk, canned fish, and processed foods, will continue unchanged for the month of December, the Office of Price Administration has announced. Point value charts (Table No. 20) will continue in effect.

The December ration period started December 3 and ends December 30.

OPA ISSUES PRICING METHOD FOR GROWER-PROCESSORS

Grower-processors of minor packed fruits, berries, and vegetables including grower-owned cooperatives have been given a higher formula by which they can figure their ceiling prices, the Office of Price Administration has announced. The action, taken in Amendment 18 to Supplement 7 to Food Products Regulation 1, was made retroactive and effective from November 17, 1944.

Before this, these processors were required, under Pricing Method No. 2, to apply to the OPA national office for specific authorization of a maximum price for each item because their prices had been established by borrowing the maximum prices of their most closely competitive processors who were not cooperatives. When Supplement 7 to Food Products Regulation No. 1 was issued in July, 1944, this system of pricing was abandoned.

The new pricing method will establish prices for grower-processors on the same general level as those provided for commercial processors. It will reflect increases at this level of 10 per cent for fruits other than Maraschino cherries, glace cherries, Concord grape juice, and Concord grape pulp; 10 per cent for berries; and 8 per cent for vegetables other than sauerkraut over 1941 base prices. The increases were provided to cover the cost increases from 1941 to 1942 other than raw materials.

These increases are the same as were given to commercial processors in the regulations covering the 1942 pack of canned fruits, berries and vegetables.

Stocks of Salt and Dill Pickles up over Last Year

Total stocks of salt and dill pickles in tanks and barrels on October 1, 1944, are estimated at 7,436,000 bushels, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics reports. This compares with 7,008,000 bushels for 1943 and an average of 7,220,800 bushels for the preceding 10-year (1933-42) period on the corresponding date. Only the quantity of cucumbers actually stored in tanks or barrels as salt or dill stocks on October 1 is reported as stocks on hand on that date.

Salt stocks on hand on October 1, 1944 are estimated at 6,890,000 bushels. This compares with 6,422,000 bushels of salt stocks on hand on October 1, 1943 and an average of 6,497,200 bushels for the corresponding date in the preceding 10-year (1933-42) period.

Dill stocks on hand on October 1, 1944 consist of 546,000 bushels. This compares with 586,000 bushels of dill stocks on October 1, 1943 and an aver-

This new formula will have no effect on the present level of retail prices.

Under the new method, the grower-processor determines his maximum price by the following steps:

(1) Figuring his weighted average price during the first 60 days after the beginning of the 1941 pack or other base period named for the particular product.

(2) Multiplying this price by 1.10 for fruits other than Maraschino cherries, glace cherries, Concord grape juice, and Concord grape pulp; 1.10 for berries; and 1.08 for vegetables other than sauerkraut.

(3) Subtracting the 1941 weighted average cost for raw material of his closest competitor who buys raw material for use in making the product, converted to unit of the finished product by applying his own 1941 case yield.

(4) Adding the 1944 weighted average raw material cost of the same competitor, converted to units of the finished product by applying the sample average of his own 1941 and 1943 case yields if he packed the item in 1943. If not, he uses his 1941 and 1942 case yields.

(5) Adjusting for approved increases in wage rates by multiplying by the appropriate figure named in Supplement 7.

(6) Subtract 2 per cent of the resulting figure from that figure and

(7) Subtract any direct subsidy payable per unit of the finished product.

The resulting figure is the grower-processor's maximum price for sales to purchasers other than government agencies.

age of 723,600 bushels for the corresponding date in the preceding 10-year (1933-42) period. The total quantity of dill stocks on hand on October 1, 1944, consisting of 546,000 bushels, was the lowest since 1934 when the October 1 holdings consisted of 515,000 bushels.

In recent years, the percentage of stocks on hand in salt on October 1 has ranged from 88 per cent in 1933 to 92 per cent in 1943. The remainder was held as dill stock.

Latest Methods of Growing Carrots for Canning Reported

According to the latest report of the Washington Agricultural Experiment Station at Pullman (Bulletin 435), the use of fertilizers on late planted (June 20) carrots resulted in a reduction in yield regardless of the placement of fertilizer. This was brought about by a marked reduction in number of plants as a result of fertilizer burn aggravated by extremely dry soil conditions. To avoid as much of this

injury as possible the carrots for the 1943 experiments were planted a month and a half earlier when moisture conditions usually are more favorable.

Red Core Chantenay carrots were seeded at the rate of 3 pounds per acre in 16-inch rows in quadruplicated, randomized plots May 3. The fertilizer, 400 pounds of 10-20-20, was placed in 13 positions in relation to the seed. The planting was not thinned. The carrots were harvested on October 10-13 with a commercial puller and topper.

Certain treatments resulted in yields below that of the unfertilized check. This may be attributed to reduction in stand of plants. Other treatments, yielding more than the unfertilized checks, had lower stand counts but the carrots remaining grew to greater size which compensated for the reduction in numbers.

The broadcast treatment gave good increase over the check plots. The highest yield, 82,787 pounds per acre, was obtained by placement 5 inches directly under the seed. This was 8,071 pounds more than that obtained from the check plots and 3,578 pounds more than that obtained from the broadcast application.

In a study to determine the effect of side dressing nitrogen and phosphorus alone and in combination on the yield of carrots, eighty pounds per acre of available nitrogen increased the yield of carrot roots 5.22 tons over no treatment. The plots receiving ammonium sulphate yielded 36.87 tons per acre. No significant increase in yield was obtained from phosphorus alone or in combination. Applying the fertilizer in the furrow between the rows resulted in as good a yield as placements made four inches to each side of the row and one and one-half inches deep.

Senate Acts to Freeze Social Security Taxes During 1945

On December 8, the Senate approved by a 49 to 17 vote the Doughton Bill (H. R. 5564) which would freeze for 1945 the social security tax on employers and employees at the present rate of one per cent. The bill now goes to the President, the House having approved it on December 5.

Under the bill approved by Congress, one per cent tax would be continued only during 1945. On January 1, 1946 the rate would be increased to 2½ per cent and on January 1, 1949, the rate would again be increased to 3 per cent.

The tax rate was originally scheduled to be increased in 1943 to two per cent but the increase in rate was postponed by Congress in 1943 and 1944.